

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated December 4, 2006  
Reply to Final Office Action of August 4, 2006

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (previously presented) A computer-implemented method for identifying metadata about a first resource identified by a first identifier, the method comprising:  
issuing a request for the first resource identified by the first identifier;  
parsing a response document received in response to the issued request, wherein the response document includes an indication that the metadata exists within a second resource identified by a second identifier, the indication identifying the metadata format;  
generating a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource, wherein the generated request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication; and  
retrieving the metadata from the second resource.
2. (previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication comprises an XML processing instruction.
3. (previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier comprise a Universal Resource Identifier.
4. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.
5. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 2, wherein the indication further comprises the second identifier.
6. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.
7. (previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an expected response type of text/xml.

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated December 4, 2006  
Reply to Final Office Action of August 4, 2006

8. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises an attribute identifying an "alternate" relation.

9. (original) The computer-implemented method of claim 6, wherein the LINK tag further comprises the second identifier.

10. (previously presented) The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the metadata from the second location occurs automatically and without further user interaction.

11. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure, comprising a discovery document stored in the data structure, wherein:

the discovery document comprises metadata about a resource stored at a first location identified by a first identifier, and a typed link indicating the existence of further metadata about the resource, wherein the typed link identifies the metadata format; and

the data structure is stored at a second location identified by a second identifier, wherein the metadata is retrieved from the second location in response to a request, and further wherein the request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the typed link.

12. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates the existence of a second discovery document and a location of the second discovery document.

13. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to a Web-based service.

14. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 13, wherein another typed link indicates a link to a description of the Web-based service.

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated December 4, 2006  
Reply to Final Office Action of August 4, 2006

15. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the typed link indicates a link to an XML schema.

16. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 11, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier comprise a Universal Resource Identifier.

17. (previously presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with a data structure, comprising a response document stored in the data structure, wherein:  
the response document is issued in response to a request for a resource at a first location,  
the response document includes an indication that metadata exists at a second location that is different from the first location,  
the indication identifies the metadata format,  
a request to retrieve the metadata from the second resource is issued, and  
the request to retrieve the metadata is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication.

18. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the response document is an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.

19. (previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 17, wherein the response document is an XML document and the indication comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

20. (previously presented) A system for communicating data over a network, the system comprising:  
a server computer including a resource;  
a client computer configured to issue a request for the resource and to receive information in response to the request; and

App. No. 10/073,670  
Response Dated December 4, 2006  
Reply to Final Office Action of August 4, 2006

a response document based on the resource, generated by the server, and including an indication of the existence of a discovery document at a location different than the server computer, the discovery document including metadata about the resource, wherein:

the indication identifies the metadata format,

the client computer receives the response document including the indication of the discovery document,

the client computer generates a request to retrieve the metadata from the discovery document, and

the generated request is formatted to support the metadata format identified by the indication.

21. (previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an XML document and the indication comprises an XML stylesheet processing instruction.

22. (previously presented) The system of claim 20, wherein the response document comprises an HTML document and the indication comprises a LINK tag.